



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Kansas City District

TUTTLE CREEK DAM

FACT SHEET

April 2001

THE DAM

Background

Tuttle Creek Lake was authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1938 with construction starting on October 7, 1952 by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The main feature that creates this lake on the Big Blue River is the dam, which is constructed of approximately 21,000,000 cubic yards of earth and rock fill. Final closure of the dam was completed on July 20, 1959 and the normal pool elevation (1,075.0 feet) of the lake behind the dam was first reached on April 29, 1963. The dam is 7,487 feet long with a 50-foot wide crest (top) and a maximum base width of 1,640 feet. The dam rises 134 feet above the valley floor with a top elevation of 1,159.0 feet above mean sea level. Tuttle Creek Lake is one of the multiple-purpose projects in the comprehensive plan for flood control and water resource development in the Missouri River Basin.

Key Points

- The dam is located 12.3 miles upstream from the confluence of the Big Blue and Kansas Rivers and is 6 miles north of Manhattan, Kansas.
- The drainage area behind the dam is 9,628 square miles
- The dam creates a lake at normal pool of 12,500 acres and at flood control pool of 54,000 acres
- The authorized purposes of the dam and lake are 1) Flood Control; 2) Water Supply; 3) Navigation Supplementation on the Missouri River; 4) Water Quality; 5) Recreation; 6) and Fish and Wildlife Enhancement.

This fact sheet is published by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the lead agency for the Tuttle Creek Dam Safety Assurance Program. Comments or questions about this fact sheet or the Dam Safety Assurance Program should be directed to Bill Empson of the Kansas City District, Corps of Engineers at (816) 983-3556 or by E-mail at tcdam.nwk@usace.army.mil. Questions or comments about lake operations or Tuttle Creek project office activities should be directed to the on-site Operations Manager, Brian McNulty at 785-539-8511. For additional information, visit our web site: <http://www.nwk.usace.army.mil/tcdam>



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